General Assembly

Distr.: General
20 May 2010

Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 114

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/64/L.52 and Add.1)*]

64/265. Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[1] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2] as well as the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, in particular the health-related development goals set out therein,

Recalling also all its resolutions related to global public health, including those related to global health and foreign policy,

Recalling further its resolution 61/225 of 20 December 2006 in which it decided to designate and observe 14 November as World Diabetes Day,

Reaffirming the ministerial declaration of the 2009 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council, on the theme "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health",[3]

Noting with appreciation all relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the World Health Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, and underlining the importance for Member States to continue addressing key risk factors for non-communicable diseases through the implementation of the 2008–2013 Action Plan for the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,[4] the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control,[5] the Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health,[6] and the evidence-based strategies and interventions to reduce the public health problems caused by the harmful use of alcohol,

---

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/64/3/Rev.1), chap. III.

[4] Available from www.who.int/nmh/publications/en/.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2302, No. 41032.

[6] See World Health Organization, *Fifty-seventh World Health Assembly, Geneva, 17–22 May 2004, Resolutions and Decisions, Annexes* (WHA57/2004/REC/1), resolution 57.17.

Please recycle

Noting that the conditions in which people live and their lifestyles influence their health and quality of life and that the most prominent non-communicable diseases are linked to common risk factors, namely, tobacco use, alcohol abuse, an unhealthy diet, physical inactivity and environmental carcinogens, being aware that these risk factors have economic, social, gender, political, behavioural and environmental determinants, and in this regard stressing the need for a multisectoral response to combat non-communicable diseases,

Underscoring the need for concerted action and a coordinated response at the national, regional and global levels in order to adequately address the developmental and other challenges posed by non-communicable diseases, in particular the four most prominent non-communicable diseases, namely, cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes,

Taking note with appreciation of the declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the Caribbean Community, entitled "Uniting to stop the epidemic of chronic non-communicable diseases", adopted in September 2007,

Taking note with appreciation also of the statement of the Commonwealth Heads of Government on action to combat non-communicable diseases, adopted in November 2009,

Taking note of all the regional initiatives undertaken on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,

Taking note with appreciation of the initiative of the Government of the Russian Federation to organize an international ministerial conference on non-communicable diseases in Moscow in June 2011,

Noting with concern that for millions of people throughout the world, the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including access to medicines, still remains a distant goal and that, in many cases, especially for those living in poverty, this goal is becoming increasingly remote,

Underscoring the fact that global health is also a long-term developmental objective which is local, national, regional and international in scope and requires sustained attention, commitment and closer international cooperation, and in this regard reaffirming the need to further strengthen international cooperation in the area of public health, inter alia, through the exchange of best practices aimed at building the capacity of public health systems, providing financial assistance, the production of and increased access to affordable, safe, effective and high-quality medicines, the training, recruitment and retention of public health personnel, the development of infrastructure and the transfer of technology,

Reaffirming the commitment to strengthening national health systems that deliver equitable health outcomes as the basis of a comprehensive approach, with appropriate attention to, inter alia, health financing, including appropriate budgetary allocations, the health workforce, the procurement and distribution of medicines and vaccines, infrastructure, information systems, which include monitoring of non-communicable diseases and their determinants, service delivery and political will in leadership and governance,

Emphasizing that the United Nations system has an important responsibility to assist Governments in the follow-up to and full implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits, especially those focusing on health-related issues,

Recognizing the leading role of the World Health Organization as the primary specialized agency for health, including its roles and functions with regard to health policy in accordance with its mandate, and welcoming its efforts, in cooperation with Member States, the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions, the private sector and civil society, and the mass media, in the promotion of public health at all levels,

Recognizing also the enormous human suffering caused by non-communicable diseases, such as cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, and the threat they pose to the economies of many Member States, leading to increasing inequalities between countries and populations, thereby threatening the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting the call to consider integrating indicators to monitor the magnitude, the trend and the socio-economic impact of non-communicable diseases into the Millennium Development Goals monitoring system,

Recognizing the lack of sufficient statistical data on non-communicable diseases, particularly in developing countries, and the need for the development and wide utilization of a set of standardized indicators for data collection and information on trends in respect of non-communicable diseases and their risk factors at the global, regional and national levels,

Convinced of the urgent need to undertake multilateral efforts at the highest political level to address the rising prevalence, morbidity and mortality of non-communicable diseases worldwide and to raise the priority accorded to non-communicable diseases in development cooperation by enhancing such cooperation in this regard,

1. *Decides* to convene a high-level meeting of the General Assembly in September 2011, with the participation of Heads of State and Government, on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

2. *Also decides* to hold consultations on the scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, with a view to concluding consultations, preferably before the end of 2010;

3. *Encourages* Member States to include in their discussions at the high-level plenary meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the review of the Millennium Development Goals, to be held in September 2010, the rising incidence and the socio-economic impact of the high prevalence of non-communicable diseases worldwide;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, in collaboration with Member States, the World Health Organization and the relevant funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, on the global status of non-communicable diseases, with a particular focus on the developmental challenges faced by developing countries.

86th plenary meeting
13 May 2010